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City grants help provide positive summer experiences for youth

Indianapolis – Over 1,700 Indianapolis youth will participate in a variety of recreational, cultural, and educational activities this summer thanks in part to grants awarded by the City of Indianapolis, Department of Metropolitan Development (DMD) in conjunction with the Summer Youth Program Fund.

The city utilized community development block grant funds received from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development in awarding the grants, totaling \$124,630.

The Summer Youth Program Fund, a collaboration of 14 local funders, today awarded more than \$1.65 million to 119 organizations that will serve 44,000 Marion County youth this summer. The activities are intended to provide safe, positive experiences for youth 4 to 19 years old at little or no cost. Grants are awarded to programs in four areas: residential, daily, enhancement, and youth employment.

"This coordinated effort is a great example of what can be accomplished by organizations pooling ideas and resources together." Mayor Peterson said. "It is very important that youth remain active and engaged in educational and enriching activities in the summer months when school is out. The Summer Youth Program fund continues to make these opportunities available."

The partnering Summer Youth Program Fund organizations, including the City of Indianapolis, are: Ackerman Foundation, Annie E. Casey Foundation; Christel DeHaan Family Foundation and Project E; Efroymson Fund; Hoover Family Foundation; The Indianapolis Foundation; The Indianapolis Foundation Library Fund; Irwin Financial Foundation; Lilly Endowment, Inc.; Moore Foundation; Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust; and the Women's Fund of Central Indiana.

Grant recipients will meet at the Marrott, 2625 N. Meridian Street, on May 6 from 8:30 to 11 a.m. to discuss grant policies and procedures.

The Summer Youth Program Fund was established by the Indianapolis Foundation and Lilly Endowment in 1995. Since its inception, the fund has grown from \$370,000 to its current total of \$1.65 million.

The city's 15 award recipients are listed below:

Barnes United Methodist Church: \$3,000 − Funding will support a two-week program for youth in grades 1−8 focusing on academic retention, anti-drug education and conflict resolution skills.

(more)

Department of Metropolitan Development Public Information Office

✓ 🛮 Boys and Girls Club of Indianapolis, John Marshall Middle School: \$7,130 – Funding will be used for an eight-week day camp dedicated to academic retention for youth on the far eastside, ages 11 -15. **□ Broadway United Methodist Church: \$11,000** - Grant will support a ten-week academic and recreational program for youth ages 4 – 18 focusing on African American culture, academic retention and character development. **Dayspring Center: \$6,000** – Funding will go towards an educational and social development program for youth residing at the Dayspring emergency shelter. Freetown Village, Inc.: \$12,000 - Grant will support a nine-week day camp for youth ages 6 - 17 teaching them African-American history and culture. **✓** □ **Hispanic Education Center:** \$11,000 – Funding will be used for a six-week program taught by Indianapolis Public School Teachers focusing on academic retention, community service and physical fitness. ✓ Indianapolis Interfaith Hospitality Network: \$4,000 - Grant will aid in sending youth to the Fall Creek YMCA summer camp. ✓ | Madame Walker Theatre Center: \$8,000 - Award will support a nine-week arts enrichment program for youth ages 5 – 13. The curriculum includes classes in dance, drama, music and visual arts. **Oasis Christian Community Development Corporation: \$11,000** – Funding will assist with a tenweek program serving youth ages 5 - 15 focused on twelve character builders. ✓ □ **Project SEED, Inc.: \$13,500** – Grant will support the hiring of 25 low-income IPS students as interns teaching advanced math to 115 elementary students. **▼** Redeemer Hospitality Mission, Inc.: \$4,000 – Funding will assist youth ages 4 – 16 as they participate in a six-week camp dedicated to personal development and recreation ✓

Robinson Community Social Service Foundation: \$4,000 – Funding will aid program focusing on academic retention for youth ages 4 – 13. ✓ □ Salvation Army, Ruth Lilly Social Service Center: \$7,000 – Grant will support a free day camp for former and current residents, ages 5-14, of the Social Service Center dedicated to education, arts and personal development. [✓] □ **St. Richard's School Foundation: \$8,000** – Award will assist low-income students in grades K – 8 with participation in a six-week academic program focused on African American Leadership.

Young Audiences of Indiana: \$15,000 – Funding will support a summer arts program involving

seven community centers and two homeless shelters.